4-13-06

N THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Apple ation No. : 10/817,546

Applicant : Euan Skinner Macleod et al.

Filed : April 2, 2004

Examiner : Title : VACUUM CLEANER

Docket No. : 0978-0024 Confirmation No.: 2538 CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"

"Express Mail" Mailing Label: EV 721992328 US

Date: April 12, 2006

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office Box Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Name: Francisca M. A. Hubbard
Signature Manages W. Nudar.

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In connection with the examination of the above-identified application, the following references are called to the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office.

U.S. Patent Documents

6,192,550 Hama

Hamada et al

02/27/2001

Foreign Patents/Publications

GB 2 372 433

Howes

08/28/2002

Other

European Search Report – Application Number EP 04 25 1832 in the Hague on February 3, 2005

Applicant encloses a PTO/SB/08A form identifying each of the above-listed references, and a copy of each foreign reference is also enclosed. In that regard, the European Search Report identifies EP 1023864 and indicates that U.S. 6,192,550 B1 is part of the "family" for such reference. Accordingly, applicant has cited to U.S. 6,192,550. This statement is provided in order to comply with 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §1.97 et. seq. and this statement is not to be construed as a representation that these references are prior art or are material to the subject application or that no information exists which is more material than these references.

Respectfully submitted.

David Lesht Reg No 30 472

Cook, Alex, McFarron, Manzo, Cummings & Mehler, Ltd. 200 West Adams Street Suite 2850 Chicago, Illinois 60606 (312) 236-8500

Dated: April 12, 2006

APR 12 2006

PTO/SB/08a (07-05) Approved for use through 07/31/2008, OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Attorney Docket Number

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Complete if Known Application Number 10/817.546 Filing Date April 2, 2004 First Named Inventor Macleod et al. Art Unit 1744 Examiner Name

(Use as many sheets as necessary Sheet

0978-0024 U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS Examiner Cite Document Number Publication Date Name of Patentee or Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Initials\* MM-DD-YYYY Applicant of Cited Document Relevant Passages or Relevant Number-Kind Code<sup>2 (If known)</sup> /DR/ Figures Appear us-6192550 02/27/2001 Hamada et al. US-US usus. us-110 US-USusus USusus. us. us. us-119.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document  Country Code <sup>3</sup> "Number <sup>4</sup> "Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
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Examiner	/David Redding/ (01/22/2008)	Date	
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ther or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <a href="https://www.usclo.cog/">www.usclo.cog/</a> or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (MIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentially is powered by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to lake 2 hours to complete including pathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application from the the USPTO. Threa will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the uspect of time to be useful to the Chert Information Officer, U.S. Patherin on the useful time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for medicant give such, should be sent in the Chert Information Officer, U.S. Patherin on the useful time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this such, should be sent to the Chert Information Officer, U.S. Patherin or the complete the com and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO

Sheet 2

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

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Complete If Known						
Application Number	10/817,546					
Filing Date	April 2, 2004					
First Named Inventor	Macleod et al.					
Art Unit	1744					
Examiner Name						
Attorney Docket Number	0978-0024					

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1						
/DR/		European Search Report -Application Number EP 04 25 1832 in the Hague on February 3, 2005					
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Examiner	/David Redding/ (01/22/2008)			
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Signature			Considered	

<sup>\*</sup> EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Applicant's indique citation designation number (optional), 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.
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